

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS & PRACTICES
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING AND JOINT BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, MARCH 7-8, 2007

*Front Street Learning Center
815 Front Street
Helena, MT*

CALL TO ORDER

CSPAC Chair, Dr. Douglas Reisig, called the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council meeting to order on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at 8:35 A.M. CSPAC council members present were: Chair, Dr. Douglas Reisig, School Administrator, Missoula; Vice-Chair, Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson, Teacher, Missoula; Ms. Tonia Bloom, Trustee, Corvallis; Ms. Kim Warrick, Reading Specialist, Bozeman; Ms. Judie Woodhouse, Teacher, Polson; and Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Dean of Education, MSU-Billings (arrived at 1:25 P.M.). Members absent were: Ms. Charla Bunker, Teacher, Great Falls. Staff members present were: Mr. Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer for CSPAC; and Ms. Megan Kerzman, CSPAC Administrative Assistant. Mr. Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary for the Board of Public Education, was unable to attend due to Legislative hearings. The following people signed the meeting roster: Linda Peterson, OPI; Elizabeth Keller, OPI; Bonnie Jones Graham, MSU-Billings; and Larry Nielson, MEA-MFT.

Motion: Ms. Judie Woodhouse moved to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Ms. Kim Warrick. Motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: Ms. Tonia Bloom moved to approve the January 16 CSPAC meeting minutes. Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Peter Donovan provided a review of CSPAC correspondence, which consisted of a letter asking Mr. Donovan to participate in the planning for the Montana Educator Forum, and an article from the New York Times concerning for-profit University of Phoenix.

***Items are in the order they were discussed at the meeting.**

ITEM 1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT – Dr. Douglas Reisig and Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson

The Council held elections for the positions of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

Motion: Ms. Judie Woodhouse nominated Dr. Douglas Reisig for the position of Chairperson. Ms. Tonia Bloom seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: Ms. Judie Woodhouse nominated Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson for the position of Vice-Chairperson. Ms. Kim Warrick seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

The Council then evaluated the current progress on the 2006-2007 goals. Several projects that support the Council's goals are: PEPPS, Code of Ethics, review of alternative and/or non-traditional paths to teacher preparation, and Chapter 57. The Council also reviewed the Annual Report, which the members would present to the Board of Public Education the following day. Dr. Douglas Reisig had prepared a handout of current and future accomplishments aligned with the Council's goals as well as possible future research projects. Several suggestions were made including using the NAEP rather than AYP as a measurement of student achievement; a project exploring the interactions and effects of mentoring, education, teacher retention (years in service), poverty level, etc. on student achievement. The ultimate goal of this study would be to develop baseline data and possibly apply for a grant to develop mentoring programs in the state of Montana. Ms. Tonia Bloom expressed her desire that the Council make a statement to the Board concerning the issues surrounding distance-learning and dual-enrollment.

ITEM 2 BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT – Mr. Steve Meloy

Mr. Steve Meloy was unable to meet with the Council due to Legislative hearings.

ITEM 3 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S REPORT – Mr. Pete Donovan

Mr. Pete Donovan spoke about his meetings attended, especially Educator Forum planning meetings. The Educator Forum will be held Friday, September 28 at the Colonial Inn in Helena. Mr. Donovan also updated the Council on the planning progress of the NASDTEC Annual Conference. The Council had asked for information about certification/licensure of paraprofessional educators in other states, which was provided in a comprehensive document. Council members asked for Ms. Susan Bailey Anderson, Ms. Elizabeth Keller, and Ms. Becky Squires to come speak at the next CSPAC meeting to discuss the paraprofessional consortium, how paraprofessional licensure would affect the licensure office, and the desires of paraprofessionals.

ITEM 1 – D POWERPOINT PRESENTATION FOR JOINT BPE/CSPAC MEETING

Dr. Douglas Reisig showed the Council a PowerPoint he wondered if the members wanted to have presented to the Board of Public Education at the joint meeting. The presentation showed some drastic changes in education and what those changes mean for CSPAC and BPE. It also explained why CSPAC is important to BPE and education in Montana. The Council decided to show the PowerPoint the following morning at the joint meeting.

ITEM 4 TROOPS TO TEACHERS PRESENTATION – Mr. Le Gaub

Mr. Le Gaub, Northern Plains Region Program Manager, presented information on the Troops to Teachers program to the CSPAC. He spoke about the staff of the program, what the program does, the requirements, financial assistance, where the program completers are teaching (region, education area, education level, etc.), and he answered many questions the Council had about Troops to Teachers program.

ITEM 5 OPI UPDATE – Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson spoke about numerous issues OPI is working on. These included: Special Education highly qualified teacher issue; NCATE Institutional Orientation (April 1-3); Salish Kootenai College’s elementary education program, which is up for approval; Praxis II and the need for reviewers; Distance-Learning rule. A small discussion ensued concerning NCATE and state accreditation, and a large, in-depth discussion surrounding distance-learning followed. The discussion touched on the task force work and the concurrent rules (10.55.602, 10.55.701, 10.55.705), while the majority of the discussion focused on the controversy surrounding 10.55.907, mainly the requirement that distance-education providers be licensed and endorsed in Montana. CSPAC decided to offer their assistance to the Board if the BPE requests the Council do some research or work concerning distance-learning.

ITEM 6 MONTANA COMMISSION ON TEACHING COMMITTEE – Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson and Ms. Judie Woodhouse

Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson and Ms. Judie Woodhouse had previously spoken about their possible research project focusing on mentoring. At Ms. Smith-Burreson’s request, Ms. Nikki Sandve spoke to the Council about mentoring projects at OPI and across the state. Ms. Sandve told the Council about the Mentoring Task Force; the Mentor Institute, which will be held in Great Falls August 14-16; and the Trainer of Trainers for mentoring and coaching, which will be held in Helena the week of July 23. Ms. Sandve handed out a CD for the Council members and explained that OPI hopes to have the information that is on the CD onto the OPI website by this summer.

ITEM 7 LICENSURE AND ENDORSEMENT COMMITTEE – Ms. Kim Warrick and Ms. Charla Bunker

Ms. Kim Warrick gave the Council an update on Chapter 57: the preliminary lists of reviewers have been developed, but work is basically at a stand-still until after the Legislative session. People will probably begin meeting to review the chapter after the Legislature wraps.

ITEM 8 PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh and Ms. Tonia Bloom

Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh told the Council about the Higher Education Consortium meeting in Polson at the Kwa Tuk Nuk May 30-31. The consortium is composed of regular and special education personnel preparation higher education faculty, OPI, and students; the consortium discusses issues with improving teacher preparation and trying for consistency across programs.

ITEM 9 PLAN FOR FUTURE CONFERENCES

Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh talked about the American Council on Rural Special Education national conference, which will be held in Billings on March 14-17, 2007, at the Crown Plaza. She mentioned that Mr. Bob Runkel, OPI, will be receiving the Golden Eagle award and the break-out sessions are excellent. Mr. Pete Donovan spoke about the NASDTEC conference in Salt Lake City previously in the meeting. Dr. Douglas Reisig will be attending as a presenter.

ITEM 10 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Orientation of New Members – if needed
- B. Committee Appointments – if needed
- C. Set Calendar
- D. Goal Setting
- E. Paraprofessional panel – Susan Bailey Anderson, Elizabeth Keller, Becky Squires

ITEM 11 PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF CSPAC

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI, stated her gratitude that the July meeting had been moved from its usual date closely following the Fourth to the 19th of July.

ADJOURN

Motion: Ms. Judie Woodhouse moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously passed..

Dr. Reisig adjourned the meeting at 3:15 P.M.

JOINT CSPAC/BPE MEETING

March 8, 2007

*Front Street Learning Center
815 Front Street
Helena, MT 59601*

From 8:30 A.M. -11:30 A.M. the Board of Public Education met with the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 8, 2007. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Student Representative Ms. Jenny Tiskus. Ms. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted. Ms. Patty Myers noted that the State Superintendent's Report will be presented when Superintendent Linda McCulloch arrives at the BPE meeting from the legislature.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adopt the agenda with the noted change. Mr. John Fuller seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Those in attendance at the meeting included the following board members: Chairperson Ms. Patty Myers, Vice-Chairperson Ms. Angela McLean, Mr. Storrs Bishop, Mr. John Fuller, and Ms. Jenny Tiskus. Staff present at the meeting included Mr. Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary of the Board of Public Education; Mr. Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council; Ms. Megan Kerzman, Administrative Assistant, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council; and Ms. Carol Will, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ex-officio board members present were Ms. Linda McCulloch, State Superintendent, and Dr. Sheila Stearns, Commissioner of Higher Education. Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council present at the meeting included Chairperson Dr. Douglas Reisig, Vice-Chairperson Ms. Melodee Smith-Burreson, Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Ms. Tonia Bloom, Ms. Charla Bunker, Ms. Kim Warrick, and Ms. Judie Woodhouse. Visitors in attendance at the meeting included: Mr. Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, OPI Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Bud Williams, OPI Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI Accreditation Division Administrator; Dr. Claudette Morton, MSSA; Ms. Elizabeth Keller, OPI Educator Licensure Unit Manager; Mr. Larry Nielsen, MEA-MFT; Ms. Bonnie Jones Graham, MSU-Billings; Mr. Willie Sharp, Blackfeet Tribe Council; Ms. Beck McLaughlin, Montana Arts Council; Mr. Al McMilin, OPI Math Science Specialist; Mr. Tom Kallay, Summit Preparatory School; Mr. Doug Ruhman, Salish Kootenai College; Ms. Cindy O'Dell, Salish Kootenai College; Mr. Joelfre Grant, Salish Kootenai College; Ms. Nikki Sandve, OPI Special Education Compliance Specialist; Ms. Denise Juneau, OPI Indian Education Director; Ms. Lynn Hinch, OPI Bilingual Education Specialist; and Mr. Bob Vogel, MTSBA.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ms. Patty Myers requested a moment of silence in honor and respect for the passing of Mr. Ted Hazelbaker and Mr. Wilbur Anderson who were both former Montana Board of Public Education Chairmen.
- Ms. Patty Myers also announced that Ms. Jenny Tiskus is the State Extemporaneous Speaking Champion.
- Mr. Steve Meloy thanked the Helena School District trustees for the use of Front Street Learning Center. Mrs. Harriet Meloy, Mr. Meloy's mother, was the curator for the pictures that were on display in the Board room.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Items are presented in the order in which they appeared.

BPE/CSPAC Joint Meeting

Members of the Board of Public Education and the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council introduced themselves to the BPE and CSPAC and stated their positions in education.

ITEM 1 CSPAC ANNUAL REPORT - Dr. Douglas Reisig

Dr. Reisig presented the Board of Public Education with the 2006 Annual Report of the Montana Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council. This report includes the mission statement, Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics (which the Council deems vital), Certification Advisory Council 2006 membership, CSPAC goals and strategies for 2006, and highlights of 2006 CSPAC meetings.

ITEM 2 MARCH 7, 2007 MEETING SUMMARY - Dr. Douglas Reisig

Dr. Reisig reviewed the following items from the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council's (CSPAC) March 7, 2007 meeting: Troops to Teachers, update on Montana mentoring, PEPPS, Chapter 57, Montana Educator Forum, and plans for future conferences. There was an active discussion between BPE and CSPAC in regard to distance learning, dual enrollment, and supplementing versus supplanting. Dr. Reisig stressed that CSPAC would continue to

work as partners with the Board of Public Education and further deliberate the amendments as proposed by the BPE's Distance Learning Task Force.

ITEM 3 CSPAC ACTIVITIES - Dr. Douglas Reisig

Dr. Reisig presented a handout of CSPAC goals with the current and future accomplishments. A few items listed were: NCATE reviews, PEPPS Standards update recommended to BPE, poverty and student achievement correlation for Montana students, instructors of Braille rule, initial review of Chapter 57, instructors of hearing-impaired children rule (if passes in Legislature), annual NASDTEC conference, information about diploma mills and false accrediting bodies, and explore alternate routes for building a highly qualified teaching force.

10:20 a.m. Commissioner Sheila Stearns arrived

ITEM 4 PROGRESS ON CSPAC GOALS - Dr. Douglas Reisig

The CSPAC goals for 2006-2007 school year are as follows:

1. Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the status and efficacy of approved teacher educator programs in Montana.
2. Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education in the areas of precertification training and educational requirements and in certification renewal requirements and procedures.
3. Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on policies related to the denial, suspension, and revocation of teachers' certificates and the appeals process.
4. Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the feasibility of establishing standards of professional practices and ethical conduct.
5. Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the status and efficacy of alternative and/or nontraditional teacher preparation opportunities.

ITEM 5 DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE RESEARCH PROJECTS

Some potential research projects are:

- Research on Montana school district Adequate Yearly Progress success rates in reading and mathematics in relation to teacher demographic characteristics, such as age, gender, years in profession, years teaching specific subject, academic preparation, etc. Can use random sample of large schools, small schools, elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, etc.
- Research on Montana student Adequate Yearly Progress success rates in middle school mathematics in relation to teacher preparation, i.e. generalist versus mathematics specialist academic preparation.
- Research on how do alternative certification states' student NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) achievement scores compare with student scores educated by traditional educated professional preparation programs.
- Research on the effects (positive as well as negative) of mentoring with respect to impact on student AYP or NAEP achievement, teacher retention, teacher occupational satisfaction, teacher academic preparation through advanced degree attainment, etc.

The Board seemed most interested in the research on AYP success rates due to various factors and on mentoring.

Dr. Reisig presented a PowerPoint titled *Did You Know* that addressed the value of CSPAC to the work of BPE.

The Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual's ability to participate. Persons requiring such accommodations should make their requests to the Board of Public Education as soon as possible before the meeting to allow adequate time for special arrangements. You may write or call: CSPAC, PO Box 200601, 46 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59620-0601, (406) 444-6576.